



# High performance sustainable bio-based packaging with tailored end of life and upcycled secondary use

PRESERVE

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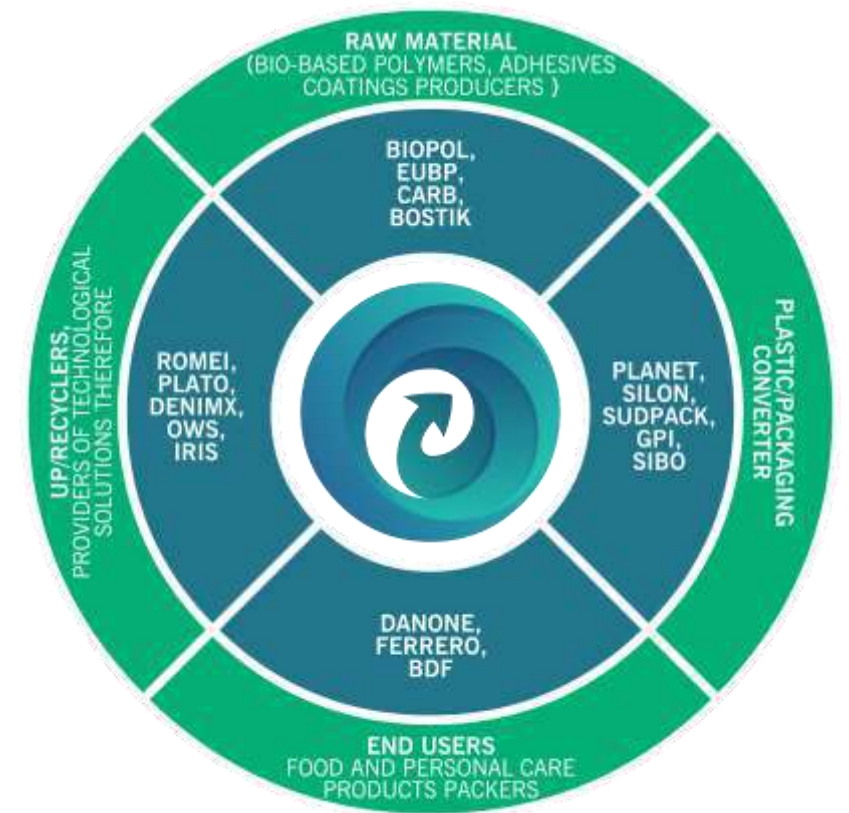
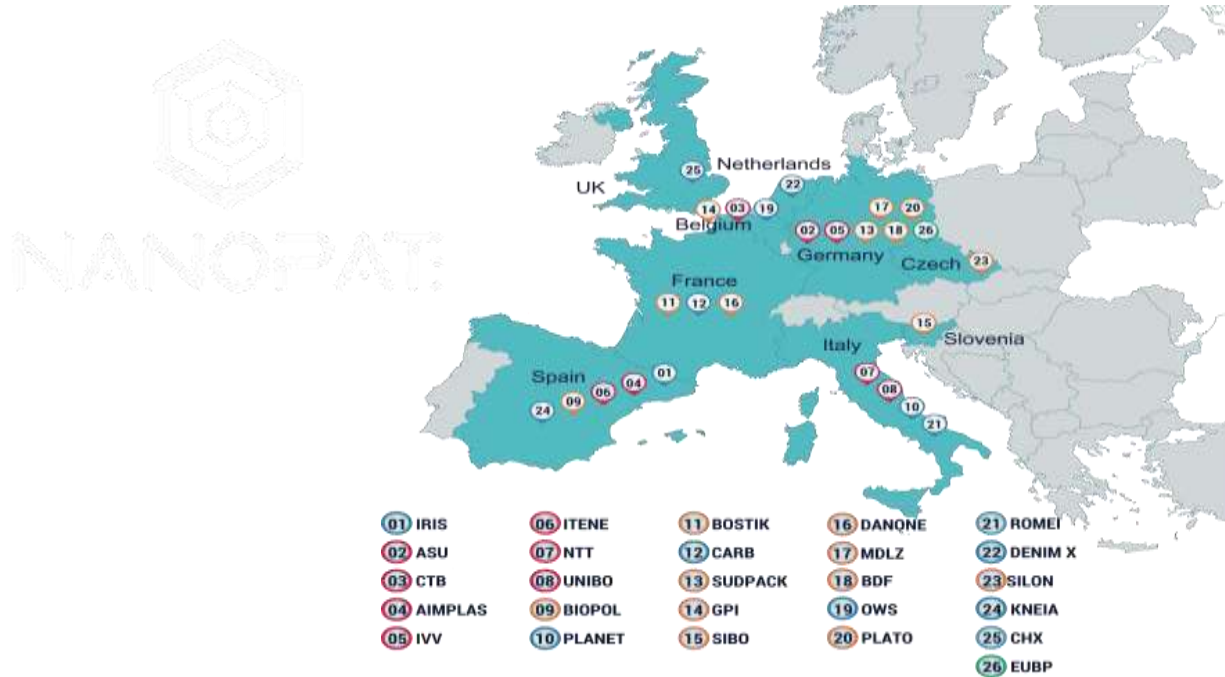
This project is funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of the European Union under Grant Agreement Number **952983**

# Preserve: Main figures

- **4 years (January 2021- Dec 2024)**

Funding from EC Horizon 2020 programme under the topic:  
*CE-BIOTEC-09-2020 Upcycling Bio Plastics of food and drinks packaging.*

- **26 partners** including 7 research organisations, partners along the circular supply & value chain with large end users and the largest bioplastics producer/users' association.



**Circular PRESERVE Value chain** (only business partners, no RTOs or support service providers)

# Why Preserve is needed?

Europe is far from its targets in terms of CO<sub>2</sub> footprint (neutrality by 2050) and circular economy (all plastic packaging recyclable by 2030)!



- EU consumes in the range of 50 M T/year fossil-derived plastics, 40% of which for packaging
- Only 32% of plastic wastes is currently recycled
- Globally over 30% of the plastic packaging leaks in the environment leading to dramatic long-term pollution.
- Bioplastics have advantages in terms of renewable feedstocks (leading to lower CO<sub>2</sub> footprint in general) and EoL modularity but still represents a very limited share of plastics (ca. 1-2%).

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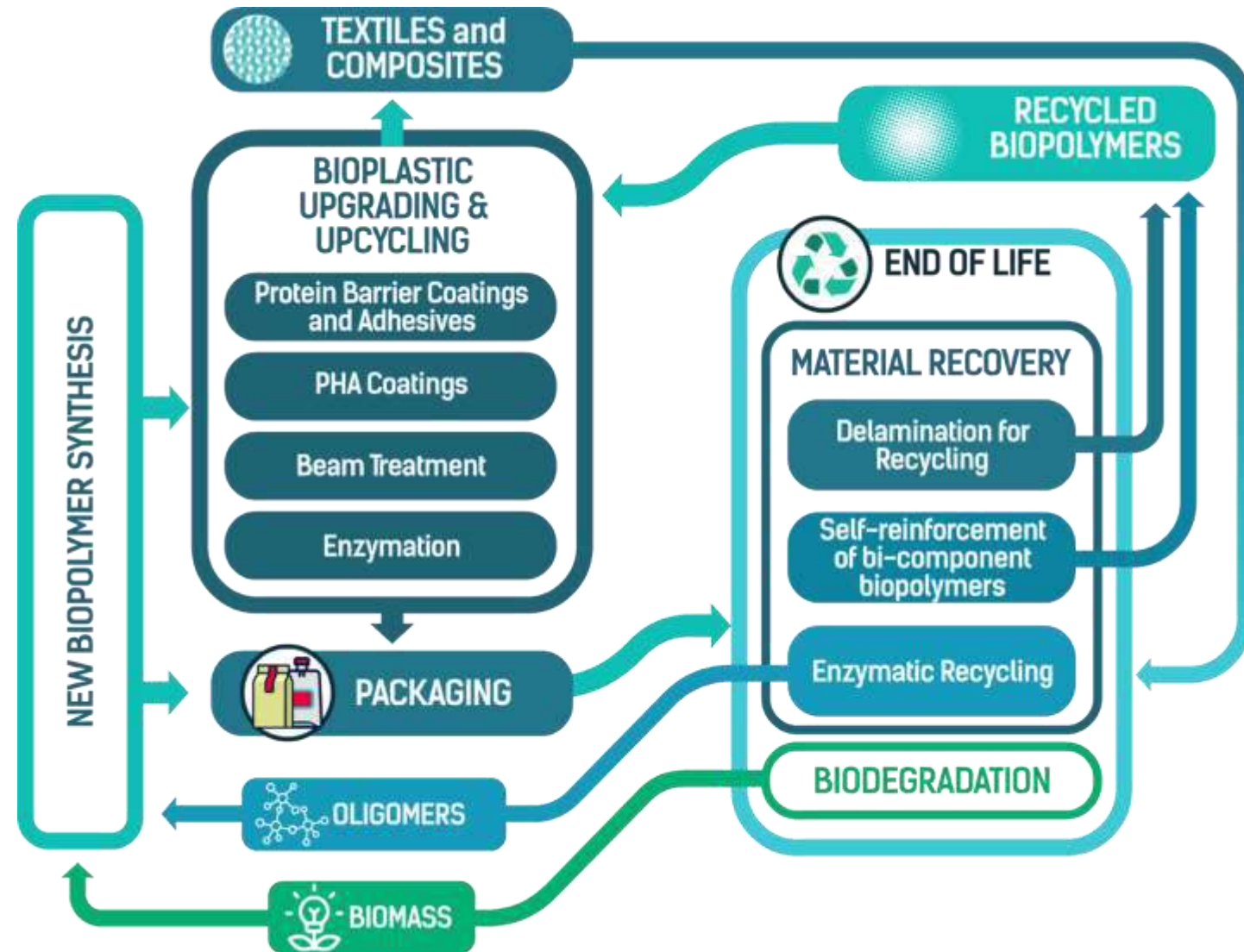


- High performance bio-based materials need to be developed and produced.
- Their recycling approaches need to be better established and in motion.
- Biodegradability of biopolymers applications to be expanded to more environments and environments.

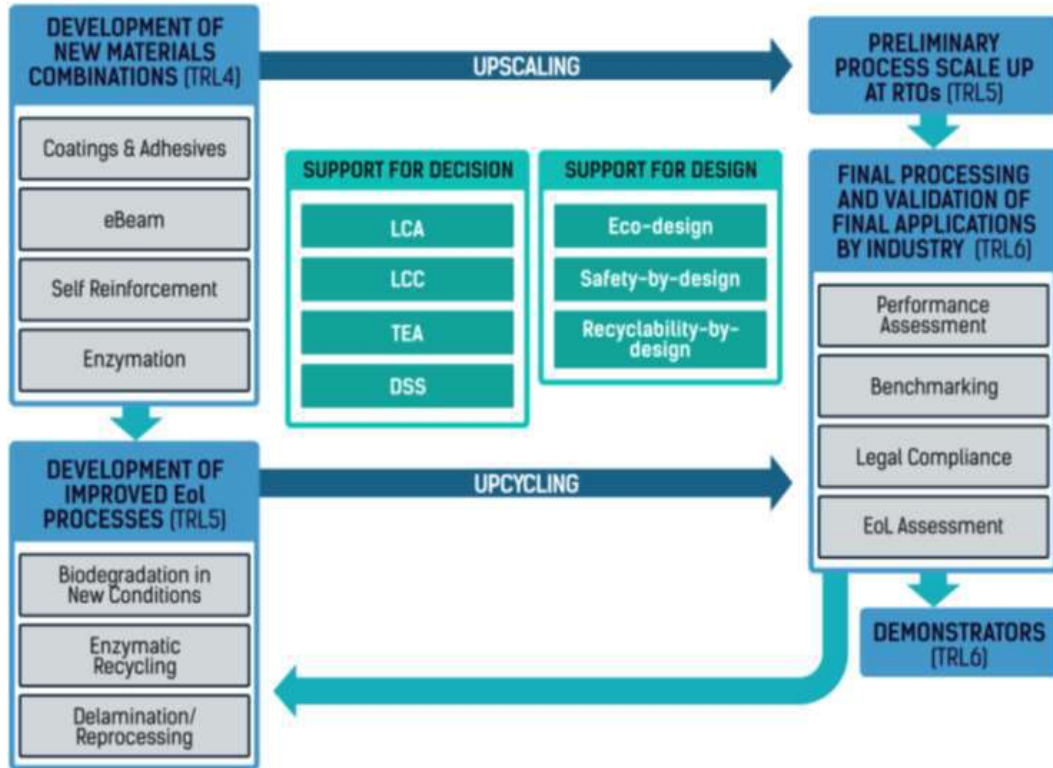


# Preserve objectives

- PRESERVE biomaterials upcycling strategies include self-reinforcement, eBeam-assisted material enhancement, removable coatings & adhesives.
- They will be fit for tailored EoL scenarios including reprocessing via self-reinforcement or after delamination, enzymatic recycling or enzyme-stimulated biodegradation.
- PRESERVE circular renewably sourced packaging solutions and derived upcycled packaging applications will optimally *preserve the packed good* but also our finite material and energy resources and the environment.
- Our technologies have many other potential uses such as pharma and service packaging, tableware, mulching films, agro-textiles, other textiles and composite applications



# Technical activities to reach Preserve solutions



## Technologies applied in PRESERVE :

- Protein- based coatings and adhesives.
- PHA coatings.
- eBeam treatment of biopolymers.
- Use of biopolymers for personal care and transport packaging.
- Reinforcement of biocomponents biopolymers.
- Delamination.
- Enzymes-based recycling.

## Bio-based packaging for food & drinks (Primary upcycled bioplastics)



Snack pack  
flowpack



Film and tray  
for dairy packaging



Film and tray  
injected bottles  
for meat packaging



Beverage brick



Pulp moulded  
packaging

## Secondary raw material upcycling into cosmetic packaging, textiles & composites



Packaging textile (reusable  
shopping bags)



Personal care  
(wet wipes)



Composites (Carrier boxes  
and cases)



Small



Personal care  
injected jar



TRL  
4  
6

**WP2 Definition of specifications for the upcycled bio-based packaging (lead S/AAE)**  
Consumer and Market Requirements, Materials and process specifications, legislative aspects.

**WP3 Development of bio-based coatings and adhesives for tailoring packaging properties and EoL (lead AIMPLAS)**  
Fermentation of special PHA. Combination of proteins/ PHA coatings and adhesives, FA grafting technologies. Finish to reduce microplastics. Development and characterization of films with tailored structures and barrier properties.

**WP4 Upcycling of core materials and blends (lead CTB)**  
Compounding with enzymes.  
Set up of eBeam treatment for selected materials and blends.  
Development and characterization of microfibrils reinforced films

**WP5 Biodegradation, compostability and materials recycling (lead OWS)**  
Biodegradation tests in different environments including marine. Compostability trials, Enzymatic recycling, Sorting, Material separation via coating removal, Upcycled Reprocessing of monomaterials and self reinforcement from bimaterials.

**WP6 Upscaling and Validation of upcycled packaging, textiles and composites from primary and secondary raw materials (lead SUDPACK)**  
Eco-design. Upcycled compounding, coating and packaging production scale up. Validation trials for food and drinks packaging as well as other applications. Upcycling of secondary materials towards packaging, textiles and composites.

**WP8 Value chain roadmap and innovation impacts (lead KNEIA)**  
Study of consumer perception, Policy recommendations  
IPR – Exploitation, Business model, Roadmap towards 2030  
Dissemination - Training

**WP7 Safety, Environmental and Economic Sustainability assessments (lead NTT)**  
Environmental, Ethical, societal, Techno-economic and Safety assessments - Standards and legislative compliance - Decision support tool for optimal upcycling route along the value chain

**WP9 Project Management (lead IRIS)**



## Contacts



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ATTENTION**